

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 2-RS-6-13-04

Issued at: Anchorage, Friday, July 2, 2004

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m., Saturday, July 3, 2004

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m., Friday,
December 31, 2004, unless superseded by
subsequent emergency order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order increases the Coghill River drainage sockeye salmon daily bag and possession limit to 12 fish per day and 24 fish in possession. Additionally, this emergency order reduces the area closed to fishing adjacent to the Coghill River weir to 50 feet.

These regulatory changes become effective at 12:01 a.m. Saturday, July 3, 2004.

REGULATION:

The provisions of 5 AAC 55.023. SPECIAL PROVISIONS FOR SEASONS; BAG, POSSESSION, AND SIZE LIMITS; AND METHODS AND MEANS FOR THE PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND AREA. are superseded by this emergency order. Under this emergency order, the following provisions are effective from 12:01 a.m. Saturday, July 3, 2004 through 11:59 p.m. Friday, December 31, 2004:

5 AAC 55.023. SPECIAL PROVISIONS FOR SEASONS; BAG, POSSESSION, AND SIZE LIMITS; AND METHODS AND MEANS FOR THE PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND AREA.

5 AAC 55.023. (9) Coghill River Drainage:

The daily bag limit for sockeye salmon in the Coghill River drainage is 12 fish per day and the possession limit is 24 fish.

Special Provisions: The waters within 50 feet of the Coghill River weir are closed to sport fishing.

Kevin C. Duffy,
Commissioner

By delegation to:

Matthew G. Miller,
Area Management Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

The sockeye escapement goal range for the Coghill River is 20,000 – 40,000 fish. As of July 1, 2004, a total of 16,102 sockeye salmon have passed through the weir on the Coghill River. On average approximately 28% of the escapement has passed the weir by July 2, thus projecting an escapement of 57,150 sockeye salmon. As provided by 5 AAC 75.003 EMERGENCY ORDER AUTHORITY (2) (A), the department has emergency order authority to increase sport fish bag and possession limits when the total escapement is projected to exceed the escapement goal and the total harvest under the increased bag and possession limit will not reduce the escapement below the escapement goal. As it is projected at this time that the escapement goal of the Coghill River sockeye salmon will be exceeded, it is

warranted to increase the sockeye salmon bag and possession limit and reduce the area closed to sport fishing adjacent to the weir.

DISTRIBUTION:

The distribution list for this emergency order is on file at the Region 2 Office of Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Sport Fish, 333 Raspberry Road, Anchorage, AK 99518, (907) 267-2218.